GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3730
ANSWERED ON:22.12.2015
Bio-diversity Management Committee
George Shri (Adv.) Joice

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS AND CLIMATE CHANGE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government proposes to entrust the Bio-diversity Management Committee (BMC) constituted under Bio-diversity Act for the overall matters relating to environment at the Panchayat level;
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) whether all Gram Panchayats in the country have constituted BMCs;
(d) if so, the details thereof, State-wise; and
(e) whether the Government is planning to allot surplus funds for the BMCs to protect the environment and if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE (INDEPENDENT CHARGE) FOR ENVIRONMENT, FOREST AND CLIMATE CHANGE

(SHRI PRAKASH JAVADEKAR)

(a) : No, Sir. As per the Biological Diversity (B.D.) Act, every local body is required to constitute a Biodiversity Management Committee (BMC) and the main function of BMCs is to prepare People's Biodiversity Register (PBR) in consultation with local people. The Register contains comprehensive information on availability and knowledge of local biological resources, their medicinal or any other use and traditional knowledge associated with them. The other function of BMC are to advise on any matter referred to it by the State Biodiversity Board or National Biodiversity Authority for granting approval, to maintain data about the local vaids and practitioners using the biological resources. The BMCs are also empowered to levy charges by way of collection fees from any person for accessing or collecting any biological resource for commercial purposes for areas falling within its territorial jurisdiction.

(b) Does not arise, in view of (a) above.

(c) & (d) No, Sir. Currently, there are 37,769 Biodiversity Management Committees (BMCs) operational in 29 States. State-wise details of BMCs constituted as of 31.03.2015 are provided in Annexure-I.

(e) No, Sir.
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